DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF INFORMATION

HEALTH DATA REPOSITORY

What is a Health Data Repository (HDR) and what is its purpose? The Health Data Repository is defined as a data repository of clinical information that resides on one or more independent platforms and is used by clinicians and other personnel to facilitate longitudinal patient-centric care. The data in the HDR will be retrieved from existing Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA) and re-engineered clinical package files and organized in a format that supports the delivery of care, regardless of the patient's location or where they have been treated in the past.

The HDR will serve five main purposes.

1. Serve as a primary source for the legal medical record,
2. Enable the generation of clinical reports based on the entire clinical holdings of VHA,
3. Serve as a platform for a re-engineered CPRS,
4. Serve as a platform for patient self-reporting to the medical record, and
5. Support standardization between and among Department of Defense, Indian Health Services, and other government and private industry clinical databases through the creation of a standards-based database.

The ability to create a composite, portable, legal medical record will enable providers to obtain integrated data views (computable views) and acquire the patient-specific clinical information needed to support treatment decisions. Initially, data from existing VistA systems will be used to populate the HDR. Thus, current VistA files (and the service processes using the files) will continue to be used. As VistA files and processes are replaced by re-engineered and commercial off-the shelf (COTS) clinical applications, data will be mapped from these new locations to the HDR. The HDR functionality will include notifications, clinical reminders, decision support, and alerts. It will, at a minimum, provide the clinical data to support the same functionality in the re-engineered CPRS as is currently available.

When will the HDR be available? The HDR will be developed in four sub-projects: HDR-Interim Message Solution (HDR-IMS), HDR–Historical (HDR-Hx), HDR Data Warehouse and HDR II. Each sub-project has its own deliverables and completion dates.

The following is a summary of each phase.

- **HDR-Interim Messaging Solution:** The HDR-IMS will collect VistA data from 128 VistA systems in at least four (4) clinical domains in “real-time”. VistA data from the four domains will be stored in an interim solution to be available for view by clinicians through Remote Data Views (RDV) by July of 2005.

- **HDR-Historical:** The HDR-Hx will collect VistA data from 128 VistA systems from Outpatient Pharmacy and Allergies as sent in real-time to HDR IMS. HDR-Hx will collect historical data from the beginning of stored records up to the moment that HDR IMS began sending data, thereby creating a “seamless” electronic health record. Local VistA systems may choose to archive and purge data to free up local disk space once data migration to the HDR has been confirmed.

- **HDR Data Warehouse:** The HDR Warehouse will create an access to data stored in the HDR-IMS and HDR-Hx for the purpose of analysis via data warehouse or data mart by July of 2005. Future HDR Data Warehouse needs will be addressed in parallel with the Enterprise Data Warehouse effort now underway.

- **HDR II:** The HDR II will create a Veterans Health Administration (VHA) database in Austin Automation Center (AAC). The functionality is to store and make VistA data in 'relevant' clinical domains available for the local VistA systems and data warehouse. The HDR II will create a local instance of the HDR at each VistA system. The local HDR is to be a replicate of the national HDR and will serve as a transaction database for Computerized Patient Record System (CPRS).

Where are we today? The HDR-IMS will meet the near term requirements of Remote Data Views and demonstrate a computable data exchange with the Department of Defense (DoD). The HDR-IMS will collect VistA data from 128 VistA systems in at least four (4) domains by July 2005 by using a framework solution that already closely meets the requirements and enhancing it to meet the project needs. The framework solution is government owned and is currently in production.

Each of the HDR sub-projects are at various stages of development and additional information for each phase can be found on the HDR website: http://vaww.vista.med.va.gov/hdr/

The following diagram displays the HDR Interim Solution for July 2005.